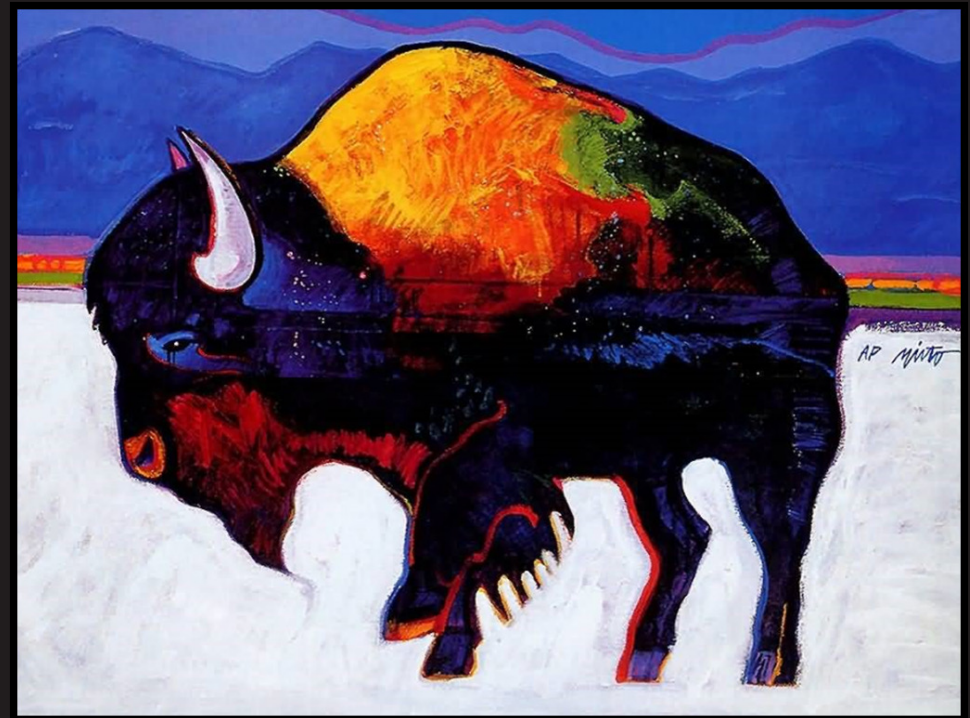


University of Colorado Boulder  
**2024 Native Graduation**

Friday, May 10  
2–4 p.m.

Koenig Alumni Center

**Nii'itoonee**  
*You all have done well*



**Congratulations!**



Center for Native American  
and Indigenous Studies  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

## **Welcome**

Andy Cowell

*Director of CNAIS and Professor of Linguistics*

## **Invocation & Blessing**

The Denver Singers

*Francis Sherwood*

## **Keynote Speaker**

Benny Shendo Jr.

*Associate Vice Chancellor for Native American Affairs*

## **Presentation of the 2024 Graduates**

CNAIS Board

## **Welcoming New Alumni**

Native Alumni Association

## **CNAIS Honors**

Certificate Recipients

Retiring & Promoted Faculty

New Board Members

## **Closing**

Honoring Song and Community Greeting Line

## **Lunch Reception**

Catered by Tocabe

## **University of Colorado Boulder Land Acknowledgment**

The University of Colorado Boulder, Colorado's flagship university, honors and recognizes the many contributions of Indigenous peoples in our state. CU Boulder acknowledges that it is located on the traditional territories and ancestral homelands of the Cheyenne, Arapaho, Ute, and many other Native American nations. Their forced removal from these territories has caused devastating and lasting impacts. While the University of Colorado Boulder can never undo or rectify the devastation wrought on Indigenous peoples, we commit to improving and enhancing engagement with Indigenous peoples and issues locally and globally.

## **Hahóo Ahéhee' HaHau Tog'oiak'**

We'd like to offer a special thank you to the Center for Inclusion and Social Change and the Koenig Alumni Center for their generous funding of this year's event.

Last but not least, a heartfelt thank you to the families and friends of the 2024 Native Graduates and to the entire CU Native Community, particularly the staff, faculty and everyone who works endlessly to support Native student success at CU.

## **Tah-ah Wado Nytra Thank You**



Center for Inclusion  
and Social Change  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

## Bachelor's Degree Recipients

**Madison Bryant** *Choctaw*

International Affairs, Minor in French, European Union Studies Certificate

**Eliannah Angel-Lucero** *Apache and Cherokee*

Psychology, Business Minor

**Preston Brumley** *Cherokee*

Mechanical Engineer

**Aidan Byford** *Seminole*

Marketing and Finance

**Rudi Cayou** *Omaha (Umo"ho") Tribe of Iowa and Nebraska*

Environmental Design Architecture, Humanities Minor

**Evie Clarke** *Muscogee Nation of Oklahoma*

Biomedical Engineering, Space Minor

**Zachary D. Colbert** *Chickasaw Nation*

Environmental Studies

**Erick Colin Rios** *First Generation Latinx*

Accounting and Finance

**Maya Sol Contreras** *Sicangu Lakota-Rosebud Sioux Tribe*

Communications, Minor in Ethnic Studies and Multicultural Leaders

**Sierra Genne** *Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina*

Astronomy and Physics, Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences Minor

**Nazhoné Morgan** *Crow and Navajo*

Computer Science, Minors in Philosophy and Creative Technology & Design

**Jacob Poston** *Sandia Pueblo, Navajo and Hopi*

Entrepreneurship & Management

**Morgan Rains** *Wyandotte Nation*

Education, Teacher Licensure

## NAIS Certificate Recipients

### Undergraduate

**Jamie Lammers**

English, Creative Writing

**Angelina Singmaster**

Anthropology

### Graduate

**Meredith Church**

Ph.D. Linguistics

**Carlton Gover**

Ph.D. Anthropology

**Luz Ruiz Martinez**

Ph.D. Mass Communication/Media Studies



## **Juris Doctor Recipients**

**Joshua Ray Bertalotto** *Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana*  
American Indian Law Certificate

**Emily Ibarra** *Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma*

**Spencer Garcia** *Jemez Pueblo*

**T.J. Stokes** *Oglala Lakota Sioux*

## **Master's Degree Recipients**

**Elena Lompe** *Oglala and Sicangu Lakota*  
Masters of Science in Museum & Field Studies and Anthropology

**Thesis:** Useful Spaces in Meaningful Places: Implementing Cultural Care and Duty of Care in Museum Collections

**James Thorpe HorseChief** *Osage, Navajo, Pawnee, Potawatomi, and Blackfeet*  
Masters of Business Administration



## **Benny Shendo Jr.**

**Associate Vice Chancellor for  
Native American Affairs**

*University of Colorado Boulder*

**Benny Shendo, Jr. is a member of the Jemez Pueblo Tribe and CU Boulder College of Business Alum.**

He was elected Chairman of the Board of First Nations Development Institute in June 2016 after serving many years as a Board member. Over the years, Mr. Shendo has served in various capacities of management and leadership in business, tribal, university and state government. Previously, he was a project director for the Native Community Foundation for New Mexico; a New Mexico Cabinet Secretary for the Department of Indian Affairs; 1st and 2nd Lieutenant Governor, Pueblo of Jemez; and Assistant Dean of Students at Stanford University.

Mr. Shendo was selected as a Fellow by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation's National Leadership Program from 1997-2000. In 2004, he received the Mary G. Ross Award from the Council of Energy Resource Tribes for professional achievements. In 2007, Mr. Shendo received the First American Public Advocate Award in recognition of Outstanding Leadership and Contributions made to American Indian economic and business development by The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development. He started the first charter school in Jemez Pueblo (K-8) in 1999. Today, Mr. Shendo is the Associate Vice Chancellor for Native American Affairs at the University of Colorado Boulder.